



Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage Committee for Religious Liberty

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017 • PHONE: 202-541-3000

March 12, 2018

Senator Mike Lee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lee,

As the respective chairmen of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage and the Committee for Religious Liberty, we write in strong support of your bill, S.2525, the First Amendment Defense Act (FADA). Persons who believe marriage is the union of one man and one woman are increasingly having their religious freedoms jeopardized and even forfeited.

As a non-discrimination act, FADA would provide significant protection for religious freedom at the federal level. It would be a modest and important measure protecting individuals and organizations from federal government discrimination. In a climate of increasing intolerance, these protections are urgently needed.

The teaching of the Catholic Church about marriage is based on both faith and reason. Using right reason, one can know that given the nature of the human person, created as male and female, marriage is the union of one man and one woman. The leadership of our Church will continue to promote and protect the natural truth of marriage as foundational to the common good. We are pleased to support the First Amendment Defense Act, and we urge your colleagues to join S.2525 as cosponsors. Thank you for introducing this needed bill in the Senate.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz
Archbishop of Louisville
Chairman
Committee for Religious Liberty

Most Reverend James D. Conley
Bishop of Lincoln
Chairman
Subcommittee for the Promotion
and Defense of Marriage